

The Flying Badger

440th Airlift Wing, General Mitchell ARS, Milwaukee Wisconsin

July 2004 Volume 56, No. 7



On the cover...



photo by Staff Sgt. Pat Kuminecz

Ken Henry, assistant fire chief, coordinates rescue response, while Col. Betty Bowen, 440th Mission Support Group commander looks on during the June UTA exercise.

The Flying Badger

July 2004 Volume 56 Number 7

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COMMAND PERSPECTIVE

Hold On! Help is on the way

by Col. Michael Smith
440th Airlift Wing Commander



My message is directed to a large group of Badger readers who are not members of the 440th, but they are just as affected by mobilization as are our reserve members. They are our spouses, significant others, extended family members and any others who find themselves in the position of being the "anchor" to one of our members. Though largely unrecognized, they are a group of true heroes in my book.

We, the wing leaders, see you infrequently at our picnics, holiday parties and farewell dinners, but the more I learn about you, the more awed I am by the grace and strength you bring to your daily responsibilities – particularly when we take your partner from you for military duty. Having gotten to know several of you better in the course of our deployments over the last two years, has helped me better appreciate how the stress of these responsibilities is multiplied when your partner is away on duty. I see the responsibilities my wife shoulders with a full-time job, while maintaining a household, and meeting the needs of our two teenage children and I hope that I play a helpful role in that effort.

We have heard many remarkable stories of how you've met monumental challenges and bested them, so we need to be sure you understand how and where the 440th can assist you so these challenges aren't yours alone. With that in mind, the August Badger will begin including a

column on issues of interest to you. If your reserve partner is like me, they don't always bring home all the information you need. We hope this column will remedy that problem by highlighting solutions that may be helpful to others.

It has been a big job to try to understand the concerns and problems that face you and then hopefully make a positive impact. On occasion, we've come up short but we do keep trying and we want to learn from any failures. I'm proud of the work our Family Readiness section has been doing. Susan Knauer joined us in the midst of a major deployment and has been a source of comfort for many since her arrival. Tech. Sgt. Tina Boyle set aside her education plans when she was mobilized for two years to assist our families. Our regional coordinators, volunteer spouses in areas where we have numbers of reserve members, work with them to extend the reach of Family Readiness. They have created some innovative means to make their efforts more effective for all of you. I also want to mention the first sergeants and those helping them. They act as one to resolve issues in conjunction with Family Readiness. Each person is committed to providing the assistance you need.

You are every bit the patriots and solid Americans that your reserve partners are. You have that same strength of will, tempered by compassion and humility that is the ultimate strength of our nation. Tell us how we may serve you better as you support the reservist in your life.

It's your choice - alcohol, drugs or career

by Maj. Kevin Shomin
440th AW Assistant Chief of Legal Services

The Air Force "True Blue" drug reduction campaign began last month here at General Mitchell ARS. The 440th is a test site for this program, which is designed to prevent alcohol and drug abuse, promote healthy lifestyles and increase educational awareness. One focus of this campaign is how alcohol and drug abuse can affect your career.

Alcohol and drug abuse are incompatible with military service. Operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, or other alcohol related incidents, whether they occur on-base or off-base, will likely lead to disciplinary action. Showing up late, or not at all due to an alcohol-induced hangover is not an acceptable excuse. I would estimate that 90 percent of the off-base disciplinary problems we encounter at General Mitchell relate to alcohol abuse. Problem drinking leads to problem behavior that results in the termination of a military career.

Drug use has even more devastating effects. Any drug use will almost always ensure an end

to a military career. That holds true regardless of whether that use was in or out of military status. Last year 68 members of AFRC were discharged because of drug use. Three of those were members of the 440th. Contrary to what might be expected, out of those 68 members, 48 of them were E-5 or above. These were senior enlisted people whose military careers ended because of drug use. Out of those 68 members who were discharged, 28 of them had more than 15 years of military service. All of them risked and lost their military careers because of drug use.

During this "True Blue" campaign the legal office encourages you to learn as much as possible about the effects and consequences of alcohol and drug use. It is our hope and the campaign's goal that you do not become one of next year's statistics.



440th medic lends a hand in Iraq

by Heidi Bultman

A member of 440th Medical Squadron recently returned from duty in Iraq. Staff Sgt. J.C. Hunt, a medical technician, volunteered for a two month rotation with the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Support Unit (EMEDS) and was stationed 150 miles south of Baghdad in Nasiriyah.

While in Iraq, Hunt's mission was to work in and support the base hospital's emergency room. He worked 12 hour days and was part of a four person medical team. According to Hunt, the emergency room treated things like broken bones, dislocated body parts, head injuries, various illnesses, gun shot wounds, shrapnel injuries and other severe injuries.

The ER averaged one catastrophic event per day, with some days having none and other days having three. The hospital Hunt worked at was a combination of Army and Air Force personnel and was considered to be the best in

the area.

The military hospital treated U.S. and Coalition soldiers, Iraqis and third country nationals.

The base Hunt worked on included personnel from many different coalition countries, including Great Britain, the Netherlands, Italy, Lithuania, Estonia and South Korea. Hunt described Nasiriyah as an area with rubble everywhere, buildings in pieces, no vegetation and blown-up cars. "It basically looked like a big garbage dump," said Hunt.

One of Hunt's most unforgettable memories was when a car bomb went off in the Italian compound. He described the event as intense because he said "I heard the bomb go off and felt the explosion."

After the bomb exploded many different medical personnel arrived on the scene. Hunt described the scene as having "massive casualties, but he was shocked how smoothly the medical process went." Many different emergency response teams



submitted photo

Staff Sgt. J.C. Hunt stands with an Iraqi citizen whose son was treated for several injuries at a military hospital in Nasiriyah.

responded in record time, worked together to assess the situation and treat more than forty different victims.

Another memorable experience Hunt had was flying in a medevac helicopter into Baghdad. He was surprised to see that from far away Baghdad was actually a good looking

city. According to Hunt, "Compared to the rest of Iraq, Baghdad was beautiful with ornamental buildings, bridges and fertile because the Tigris River flows through it."

Hunt said this was a once in a lifetime opportunity and he "would do it again in a heart beat."



submitted photo

Tech. Sgt. Bill Knight, loadmaster, 95th Airlift Squadron, and crew had a nice surprise at the Kuwait City airport, where they were greeted by the "Motor City Madman," Ted Nugent! Nugent brought many well wishes and words of gratitude from the folks back home.



submitted photo

From left: 440th Logistic Readiness Squadron Tech. Sgt. James Kasprzak, Senior Airman Rusty Lison, Maj. Joe Almodovar, Senior Airman Daniel Horn and Master Sgt. Thomas Gudex take a breather during from their work in Tikrit, Iraq. Major Almodovar is serving as the chief of staff for the Office of Strategic Communications under Paul Bremer and the provisional government. The other 440th reservists are assigned to the 1058th Aerospace Expeditionary Force Transportation Company. The unit is comprised of soldiers and airmen from 25 different units in three different countries. In the past three months, the unit has logged more than 148,299 miles and delivered more than 442,000 gallons of water and equipment to keep military units throughout Iraq supplied.

440th says farewell to 128 years of leadership

by Maj. Ann Peru Knabe

One hundred twenty-eight years of leadership. Thousands of days dedicated to the mission. Four shining leaders committed to the wing.

The retirements of Col. Don Bahr, Lt. Col. Tom Greenwaldt, Lt. Col. Tom Hall and Lt. Col. Liesa Roelke represent the end of an era. Along with the memories, the retiring leaders will take along the "corporate intelligence" that comes with years of experience.

The Flying Badger sat down with three of the four officers on the May UTA to capture their thoughts and pick their brains before they retire. Hall was interviewed via email as he finishes his last tour of duty in Kuwait.

Q: What changes have you observed during the last three decades?

Hall: The increase in real-world deployments and activations. Who would have thought my last two years would have been like this? Last year I deployed to Istanbul, Turkey, to prepare for possible activation of the wing. This year I deployed to Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait and am serving as the 386th Support Group commander. What a way end my career ... but of course I'd stay in the Reserve if they let me. (Editor's note: Hall faces mandatory retirement in August 2004).

Bahr: The technology. We used to use manual typewriters and rotary phones. I remember how hard it was to do OPRs (officer performance reports). If you had one extra space or one period out of place, the whole thing had to be redone. The only place you could get copies was at the headquarters, and it was on the old mimeograph machines. That's where the term "dirty purple" came from. It refers to old copies of officer school notes made on the machines that printed in purple ink.

Roelke: The cultural acceptance of women in uniform. The only place for women years ago was in the Women's Army Corps. There was a small percentage of women working at the headquarters, but they were stuck in clerical positions. On deployments, they were completely segregated from the men. Today, women are allowed to fly, serve in combat arms and acquire jump status.

Greenwaldt: Society's view of the military. In the early 1970s, there was a proliferation of hippies against the war and people who served were often called baby-killers. The time was turbulent and full of social unrest, and people who were against the Vietnam War blamed the troops. Today, society is much more supportive of our troops, even if they don't support the war. People are also better utilized as part of the Total Force. There has been a considerable increase in the caliber and professionalism of the Air Force Reserve, and we are respected by all branches of service.

Bahr: We can't forget how our social life has changed in the Reserves. I remember when the clubs and drinking were glamorized. Now it is just the opposite. Three decades ago, there were go-go dancers in the clubs on the weekends. The officers' wives wore white gloves, and were invited to parties where the general's wife would "inspect" them and make sure the women measured up. Now, we have many more women serving as part of the team, and many of the sexist cultural customs of the past have become a chapter in history.

Roelke: And don't forget the uniforms.

Bahr: Remember the 1505's? The tan, short-sleeve polyester summer uniform? Then the cotton fatigues in dull green. Then BDU's. And the blues have seen changes, too.

Roelke: And we can't forget the food. Years ago they had C-rations, which are now easy to open MREs. Everyone had a P-38 can opener around their neck to open the C-ration cans. They kept it next to their dog tags.

Greenwaldt: You could always count on the peanut butter and crackers being good. The C-rations also included gum and cigarettes. Now, we see great emphasis on fitness, and smoking is virtually banned.



(L to R) Lt. Col. Liesa Rolke, Col. Donald Bahr, and Lt. Col. Thomas Greenwaldt.

photo by Airman First Class Chris Hibben

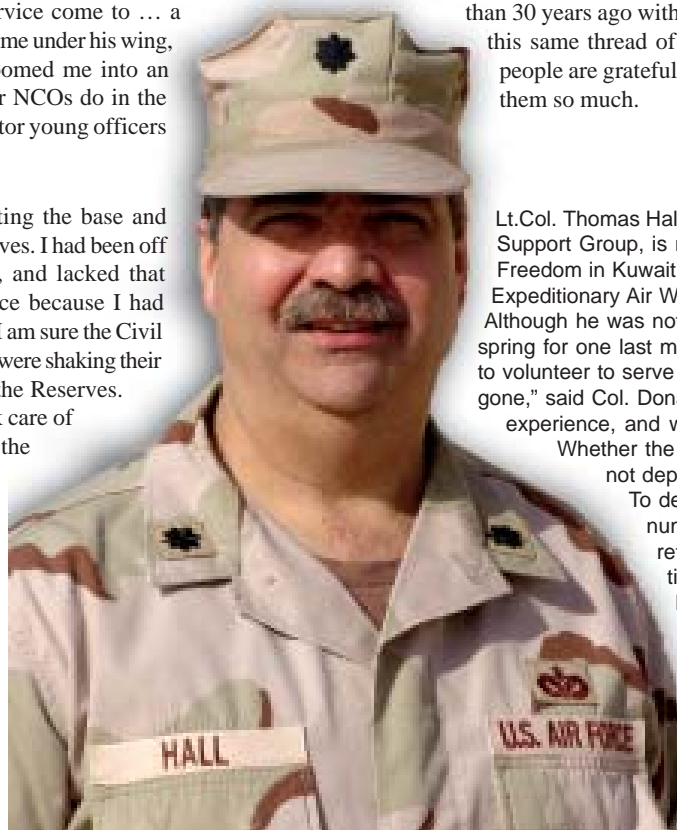
Q: What stands out most in your mind when you look at the last 30-plus years in the military?

Bahr: Two big things jump-out in my mind: The ORI (operational readiness inspection) in summer of '98 in Savannah. It was really hot and the humidity was outrageous, and people kept passing out from the heat, and yet these folks would be back out working just hours later ... giving it their all; I also treasure the time I spent in Spain following 9-11. I had originally traveled to Moron during AEF operations, planning to help scale down Northern Watch support as required by the rotational missions. But when the tragedy hit on Sept. 11, we had to reconstitute the base. In less than 24 hours, we had planes flying in and out again. These events tested our troops, but they showed how strong they really are.

Greenwaldt: I'll always remember deploying with the troops. These trips were priceless because they improved unit integrity and increased camaraderie. We really pulled together as a team and felt good about the work we did. But there were also low points I remember, like the crashes in 1985 and 1997. We had to deal with the tragedy and people grieving, but still had to fly real-world missions. There are moments I'll never forget, like the memorial service put together by (Maj.) Tony Polashek.

Roelke: I'll remember the people the most. Let's face it, reservists come out because they feel they belong to a great group of people. There are also a few defining moments that stick-out in my mind ... like Sergeant Wallace, an E-6 platoon sergeant who worked for me when I was assigned my first job as an Army second lieutenant. I'm sure he thought, "Oh my God, what has the service come to ... a woman in charge?!" But he took me under his wing, showed me the ropes, and groomed me into an officer — much like our senior NCOs do in the Air Force today when they mentor young officers and enlisted members.

Hall: I vividly remember visiting the base and thinking about joining the Reserves. I had been off of active duty for eight years, and lacked that professional military appearance because I had long hair and a full black beard. I am sure the Civil Engineering Squadron members were shaking their heads, thinking I'd never join the Reserves. But I did! (And I promptly took care of my beard and hair right before the UTA.) When I returned home after my first drill, my children, Paulsen and Mallory, didn't recognize me! On the note of family, I will always remember the terrific support my family gave me during my years in the military, especially during this last year's deployment.



When did they get their start?

Lt. Col. Donald Bahr- March 28, 1966

Lt. Col. Thomas Hall - August 9, 1974

Lt. Col. Thomas Greenwaldt - June 30, 1974

Lt. Col. Liesa Roelke - December 17, 1974

Q: What advice can you leave behind for the leaders of tomorrow?

Greenwaldt: Cherish what you have. Units come and go under reorganizations, but some things always remain the same with the wing: the dedication, loyalty, esprit de corps, pride in serving and sacrifice by so many people. Remember you are part of a larger family — the 440th.

Roelke: It's an exciting time of change. Our younger officers have a terrific opportunity to step up to the management table and get involved, mentoring new members and accepting challenge. While it's hard to face retirement, it's exciting to see all the opportunity for those of you staying with the unit.

Hall: My advice is "Be Prepared!" A lot of what happens (especially as you advance toward a goal) seems to depend on perspiration and perseverance. Those who want to excel will need to be prepared to meet the next PME (professional military education) standard or time

commitment necessary to achieve the next level. When the opportunity arises, this is going to make the difference. In other words, be prepared — When opportunity knocks, take advantage of it. It might not happen again.

Bahr: It's a given there are challenges and changes. To maintain a state of excellence, you have to be willing accept and embrace change as part of growth and progress. With a group of committed people like the members of the 440th Airlift Wing, anything is possible.

Roelke: And, yet, some things don't change. The four of us joined more than 30 years ago with a desire to service our country, and today we see this same thread of commitment and loyalty among new recruits — people are grateful and want to give back to a country that has given them so much.

Lt.Col. Thomas Hall, vice commander of the 440th Mission Support Group, is now serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in Kuwait. In his deployed role, Hall serves as the 386th Expeditionary Air Wing mission support group commander. Although he was not activated, Hall volunteered to deploy this spring for one last mission. Not all of the retiring officers were able to volunteer to serve in support of OIF. "I really wished I could have gone," said Col. Donald Bahr. "It would have been a wonderful experience, and what a way to leave serving the country."

Whether the retiring senior leaders were able to deploy or not depended on their "retainability" date.

To deploy for Iraqi Freedom, reservists need a set number of days available before their mandatory retirement date. This allows members adequate time to return home, outprocess and take any leave before their mandatory retirement date.

photo submitted

Survey Says...

The Flying Badger gains feedback on itself as more than 400 440th Airlift Wing members complete newspaper's on-line survey

by Staff Sgt. Steve Staedler

Some comments were positive.

"I personally very much like the Flying Badger."

Others more critical.

"The Flying Badger rarely has anything in it about civilians that work on base."

But comments and feedback is what The Flying Badger wanted, and that's exactly what it received.

About 420 wing members earlier this year completed the on-line newspaper survey conducted through AFRC. The survey serves as a tool for the 440th Public Affairs Office on how to produce its monthly publication to better serve the needs of its readers.

The 34-question multiple survey asked respondents to rate The Flying Badger on a variety of questions such as story quality, trustworthiness of the news and overall impression. The survey produced the most valuable feedback in the last question which encouraged respondents to write in their overall impressions on the newspaper (see next page). Due to space limitations, a complete list of the multiple choice responses is available in the Public Affairs Office, bldg. 102, room 111.

The First Badger

The First Flying Badger was published in February 1952 in response to the activation of the 924th Reserve Training Wing at General Mitchell Field. The newspaper was written in advance of the wing's first training UTA, Feb. 9-10, 1952.

The first issue was six pages, contained one cartoon, no photos and a section called "Slips & Quips." Examples taken from this issue's Slips & Quips are:

Irate wife: "You never kiss me anymore. Why can't you be like the man next door!"

"These bathing suits," she did declare, "are simply more than I can bare!"

Survey respondents asked several questions about The Flying Badger. Here are a few of the more commonly asked questions from the survey, with answers from The Flying Badger's editorial staff.

Q *What is the purpose of The Flying Badger?*

A The Flying Badger is one of the 440th Airlift Wing's commander's primary means of communicating important news and information to the members of the 440th. Since the mobilization it has also served as an important source of information for the families of activated reservists.

Q *The Flying Badger seems to be written primarily for reservists. Why don't civilians get more coverage?*

A The Flying Badger is written primarily for reservists. The primary function of the full-time civilian employees is to support reservists and the mission. The Flying Badger is written for that purpose.

Civilians are occasionally featured in The Flying Badger. Civilians have the benefit of daily e-mail and quarterly meetings with the commander, two things that the reservists do not have.

Q *Why doesn't The Flying Badger run a recurring section about news from each squadron?*

A The Flying Badger used to have a section like this called Around the 440th, but input from the squadrons slowly diminished from month to month, leaving us without enough information to adequately run the column.

Q *Why does The Flying Badger seem to arrive after the UTA for some reservists?*

A The Flying Badger is mailed through the U.S. Postal System. Sometimes the paper is delayed by production problems or the periods between the UTA weekends are so short we run out of time. We changed printers in January because of frequent production delays and believe we have since had more timely mailings since that change.

Q *How does the editorial staff determine The Flying Badger's content?*

A The editorial staff has to consider a number of factors:

- First of all, remember that The Flying Badger is printed once a month, so it's difficult to fill it with timely material. We will favor the most current information and news that has not appeared in other mediums like television, radio and local newspapers. The commander uses The Flying Badger as his primary communication tool for reservists and their families.

- Exercises and other events that have occurred three or more months ago will typically be passed over in favor of events that happen right before the UTA weekend.

- We often get requests to say thank you to people and units for favors or work done. Our philosophy is that The Flying Badger is for news and information that will be of interest to the largest group of people.

Likes and Dislikes

Everyone has an opinion and many chose to share theirs on The Flying Badger. Here is a sample of the write-in comments from The Flying Badger newspaper survey. All comments are submitted anonymously.

Very seldom does The Flying Badger discuss anything about the support the civilians provide to the military.

Taking into consideration the size and populace of the base, The Flying Badger does a good job overall.

It would be nice if the paper had a section from each squadron that could include something happening, ranging from either a deployment to something outstanding that a member did. I think more pictures would help and also more information about the 440th and its role in the overall operations of the Air Force. Often I feel people know their particular job, but how much do they know about the overall Air Force? The paper is great and hopefully in the future it will expand to provide even more information. Also, I think a question-and-answer section from the commander would be a nice thing.

Many times The Flying Badger does not get to my residence in a timely manner. It would be good to have it on-line, so that we can access back issues instead of keeping paper copies

The Flying Badger is missing the base schedule. This schedule would be helpful if kept in The Flying Badger.

The biggest problem I have is timing. The Badger doesn't arrive until I leave for the UTA. Many of us who come out Thursday through Monday, and the Badger is old news by the time we read it at home.

While CE was forward deployed to Iraq, I only saw one article on the deployment. Now that the wing is deployed, there is nothing but information on their deployment to Kuwait. I guess CE wasn't newsworthy enough to report on. We didn't even get any Flying Badgers sent to us while we were in Iraq. I guess you didn't know where to send them. Out of sight out of mind I suppose. You people really did a lot for the morale of the deployed troops - NOT! Thanks for the non-support

I personally very much like The Flying Badger. I am sure that the size of this base somewhat reduces the amount of content in your publication. I certainly look forward to every issue that is mailed to my home. I also appreciate the timing of the delivery to precede the ensuing UTA weekend. Keep up the good work.

I would like to see a bit more "local color" highlighting what 440th members and/or their family members do in their community. Also, I liked the "question of the day" that used to be a feature in the paper.

Do not make the Badger any bigger by adding pages to it or it will be too intimidating to read. I enjoy reading small stories better than lengthy ones.

Maybe once a year have a "who are we" page showing photos of each commander and first sergeant. On a more somber note, a small obituary column for our deceased former members and retirees would really add a family touch to the publication.

I would like to see leadership job opportunities listed in The Flying Badger or somewhere so that all reservists have an equal opportunity for the position. In regards to unit deployments, it would be nice to have a photo of those reservists who are deployed. We don't need to know specific locations, but it would be nice to send them a care package if an address is available.

Everyone in the Reserve should have access to a computer and the ability to read a copy of The Flying Badger from the base Web site. We should be looking at using technology to its fullest extent to save paper and printing costs, and valuable dollars for training.

My impression is that The Flying Badger is "required" for both AFSC training of Public Affairs members and as a way to let base members know what's going on. The information is good, but I can't say it stands out in my mind or is very memorable.

The Badger questionnaire is relative to a paper with limited space, which in turn, illicit tepid responses. The paper can't be expected to address all the issues with the quality, depth and quantity some people would like to see. Based on its size and intent, it's a great paper

440th Civil Engineer Squadron Reservist's employer earns Secretary of Defense Freedom Award

by Maj. Ann Peru Knabe

For the second year in a row, a 440th Civil Engineer Squadron reservist submitted an award-winning nomination, resulting in a Milwaukee-based employer earning Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's highest honor, the Secretary of Defense Freedom Award. Senior Master Sgt. Pete Ruzicka, an electrical superintendent, nominated Harley-Davidson Motor Company for its "tremendous support for its Guard and Reserve employees for more than half a century."

"I always encourage our reservists to nominate their employers," said Lt. Col. Jim Surfus, Ruzicka's commander. "I tell them to include as much depth and detail as possible when submitting their employer for an MBIAP (My Boss is a Patriot certificate)."

Surfus should know. He nominated his employer last year with great success. Miller Brewing earned the coveted Freedom Award in 2003. Ruzicka followed his commander's footsteps, offering numerous examples of how Harley-Davidson supported him while he was activated.

"They did above and beyond what is required by the law," said Ruzicka, referring to Harley-Davidson's differential pay policy, continued insurance and health coverage, and other benefits the company offered while he was activated. But what really made the entry award a winner were the personal stories offered by Ruzicka.

When Ruzicka was activated in 2003, Harley-Davidson's human resources staff routinely contacted his wife to check on her status and make sure she was OK. The personnel office also kept her updated on pay and benefits issues, actively communicating throughout her husband's deployment.

Meanwhile, Ruzicka experienced the same level of caring and concern from coworkers and company executives while stationed in Iraq. He received a large package from Bill Davidson, a

grandson of one of the founders. The package, worth more than several thousand dollars, contained commemorative t-shirts, hats, plaques, banners and other mementos from home. "It's these types of things that let you know the company really cares about its Reserve and Guard members."

Back home in Milwaukee, Harley-Davidson demonstrated corporate leadership and social responsibility in the business community. The company's chief financial officer signed an ESGR Statement of Support at Gen. Mitchell ARS in an elaborate ceremony covered by the media. More than 100 people participated in this event, with Harley-Davidson employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve, and members from all branches of the Armed Forces.

Less than a week following the Statement of Support signing, Harley-Davidson proudly raised a Blue Star Service Banner at its international headquarters in Milwaukee.

The Blue Star Flag tradition dates to 1917, when family members flew or displayed flags as relatives served in WWI. Today the tradition is carried on by companies that show support of their activated Guard and Reserve employees.

At the time the flag was raised, more than 20 employees were activated overseas.

When Reserve and Guard members returned from duty, they were greeted with celebrations given by Harley-Davidson coworkers. Ruzicka was honored in a quarterly meeting attended by 500 employees. Days later, he was congratulated again in a department-wide meeting.

Following suit, his coworkers celebrated with cake and beverages. Harley-Davidson's award winning nomination included all of these examples and more in a detailed narrative.



photo submitted

Senior Master Sgt. Pete Ruzicka's employer, Benny Suggs, earned ESGR's State Chair award in April, followed by the Freedom Award.

"It is clear that Harley-Davidson is committed to its employees who serve," said Col. Tom Hamilton, a retired 440th member who represents Area 2 on the state ESGR awards committee. "There are a lot of employers doing great things, but someone needs to take the time to collect and write down the information and submit it through the MBIAP nomination process. Otherwise, these employers don't get recognized."

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve selected 15 businesses from across the nation as 2004 Secretary of Defense Freedom Award recipients. Past Wisconsin winners are American Family Insurance, Midwest Airlines, Schneider International, and Miller Brewing Company.

The Department of Defense and ESGR will formally present the award to Harley-Davidson Motor Company and the other 14 winners in a ceremony at the Ronald Reagan International Building and Trade Center in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 21.

How can your employer earn a higher level ESGR award?

- 1) Visit the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) national website at www.esgr.org
- 2) Click on "Military Members," and then click on "Patriot Award."
- 3) Fill in all of the blanks. Select where you want the certificate sent. Note – if you select the Reserve unit for delivery, a commander or Air Force Reserve representative will present your employer with the MBIAP certificate if you coordinate with your commander's office.
- 4) Award-winning nominations are filled with examples and personal stories of support. Avoid stating your employer doesn't discriminate against you, and avoid saying your employer lets you "off for Reserves." This is already required by law! Instead, provide descriptive narratives supported with vivid examples.
- 5) It helps to first write your narrative in a word-processing document, and then "cut and paste" it into the online form.
- 6) If you don't have internet access, visit the Public Affairs Office, room 111, building 102. Fill out the form, and a PA staff member will enter the information.

AWARDS

Awards

The following individual has been awarded the Legion of Merit:

Col. Donald Bahr 440 AW

The following individual has been awarded the Air Medal:

Maj. David Belfiore 95 AS

The following people have been awarded the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal:

Maj. Michael Day 95 AS
 Maj. David Devogel 440 OSF
 Maj. Anthony Polashek 440 OG
 Maj. Kevin Shomin 440AW
 CMSgt. David Hansen 440 MXS
 SMSgt. Ramon Galaviz 440 MDS
 SMSgt. Scott Schroeder 440 MXS
 MSgt. Gary Cunico 440 MOF
 MSgt. Richard Dehart 440 MDS
 MSgt. Mark Lindner 440 MDS
 MSgt. Jacqueline Veesebabich 440 OSF
 MSgt. Clarence Ward 34 APS
 MSgt. Raymond Wilson 34 APS
 TSgt. Kim Millikin 34 APS
 TSgt. Christian Nielsen 440 MDS
 TSgt. Richard Czerwinski 440 MXS
 TSgt. Gary Vanderhill 440 MOF
 SSgt. Michael Kintz 440 OSF

The following people have been awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal:

Maj. Ronald Weingart 440 MDS
 Maj. David Belfiore 95 AS
 Capt. Dieter Presser 440 AW
 SMSgt. Joseph Bieschke 440 OSF
 MSgt. Barbara Augustenborg 440 CF
 MSgt. Ronald Gustafson 440 MDS
 TSgt. Steven Beekmen 440 MOF
 TSgt. Vincent Leto Jr. 34 APS
 TSgt. Donald Stephany 440 MXS
 SSgt. Tracie Gunnuscio 440 AW
 SSgt. John Hust 440 CF
 SSgt. Christina Thums 440 OSF

The following people have been awarded the Air Force Achievement Medal:

Capt. George Horn 440 MDS
 SMSgt. Wayne Kraft 440 SFS
 MSgt. Eric Nelson 440 SFS
 MSgt. David Otis 34 APS
 TSgt. Stephen Larson 440 CES
 TSgt. Richard Lindquist 440 CF
 TSgt. Robert Sommer 440 CF
 SSgt. Vicki Bailey 440 CF
 SSgt. Patrick Kuminecz 440 CF
 SSgt. Dean Regazzi 440 CES
 SrA Nicholas Boehlke 440 LRS
 SrA Eric Weiss 440 OSF



SMSgt. Dan Kacmarcik (center), first sergeant, 440th MSS, was recently awarded the Richard I. Bong Award for demonstrating outstanding traits of leadership and professionalism through his contributions to the unit and the community. Pictured with SMSgt. Kacmarcik are Lt. Col. Daniel Ritsche, 440 MSS, (L) and Col. Betty Bowen, 440 MSG (R).

Newcomers

TSgt. Derek Halvorson 440 CES
 TSgt. William Meister 440 ALCF
 SSgt. Kenyon Farmer 440 CF
 SSgt. Kevin Wood 440 MXS
 SrA Robert Cardoso 440 LRS
 SrA Dawn Clare 440 LRS
 SrA Rhodora Gordon 440 MDS
 SrA Lamar Jennings 440 MXS
 SrA Paul Petraitis 440 CES
 SrA Chad Roberts 440 SFS
 A1C Anthony Boyd 440 MXS
 A1C Michael Glenn 34 APS
 A1C Amanda Lisch 34 APS
 A1C Jacob Rauwald 440 MXS
 A1C Eric Sanford 440 CES
 A1C Shannon Smith 34 APS
 A1C Andrew Stines 440 MXS
 AB Jovan Hahm 440 MDS
 AB Stephen Nehls 440 MSF
 AB Dustin Strewkow 440 MDS

Retirements

Col. Donald A. Bahr 440 AW
 Lt. Col. Thomas R. Greenwaldt 440 MXS
 CMSgt. David W. Hansen 440 MXS
 SMSgt. William J. Creek 440 OG
 MSgt. Mark E. Lindner 440 MDS
 MSgt. Jerry R.. Schultz 34 APS
 MSgt. Raymond J. Wilson 34 APS
 TSgt. Barry Jeter, Jr. 440 OSS
 TSgt. Christian A. Nielsen 440 MDS
 SSgt. John B. Nickles, Jr. 440 CES

Promotions

The following individuals have been promoted to the indicated rank:

Maj. David Belfiore 95AS
 Maj. Laurin Bell 440 MDS
 Maj. Linda Blair 440 LRS
 Maj. Kevin Greer 440 MDS
 Maj. Christopher Hammonds 440 MDS
 Maj. Jon Jones 95 AS
 Maj. Constantios Kartsonas 440 ALCF
 Maj. Jean Pyzyk 440 MXS
 Maj. Timothy Martz 440 SFS
 SSgt. Daniel Lambrecht 95 AS
 SrA Mauricio Basurto 34 APS
 SrA Luke Borlee 440 MXS
 SrA Martin Dunovsky 440 AW
 SrA Jacob Rauwald 440 MXS
 SrA Shannon Smith 34 APS
 SrA Nathan Thrun 440 CES
 SrA Jerome Wy 34 APS

Reenlistments

SSgt. Kenyon Farmer 440 CF
 SSgt. Kevin Woods 440 MXS
 SrA Paul Petraitis 440 CES
 SrA Chad Roberts 440 SFS
 A1C Roger Case 440 MXS

Chaplain services

Catholic Mass will be held at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, July 10, at 34th APS.

Protestant services will be held Sunday July 11 (PLEASE FIND OUT WHAT TIME) at 34 APS.

The Flying Badger will have a standing column with times and locations of services.

If your squadron would like to host, or if you have questions, contact the Chaplain's Office at (414) 452-5225.

PLAN AHEAD - uniform requirements for 440th Change of Command/Retirement Ceremony

The wing change of command and retirement ceremony will occur on Saturday, 23 Oct. Troop formation will be mandatory. The uniform of the day will be blues, long sleeve/tie, no coat. Official party will be in service dress. The location will be the flight line or maintenance hangar, building 217, depending on weather. Any questions, please direct them to your group commander.

Pay travel card bills on-line

Airmen with government travel cards may pay charges not covered by split disbursement through the "MyEasyPayment" system at www.myeasypayment.com. Cardholders need to know the amount they want to pay, the account number, security code, checking account and bank routing numbers. Direct questions to the unit agency program coordinator. Contact Financial Services at 482-5350 for Bank of America information.

Civilian Employment Information program

DOD recently announced the start of the Civilian Employment Information (CEI) program. The CEI program establishes, for the first time, mandatory individual Reserve component member disclosure of their civilian employer into a common department-wide database.

Implementation of the CEI program culminates a yearlong effort to establish a DOD-wide system to capture and understand who employs the 1.2 million members of the Armed Forces Reserve.

Guard and Reserve members are required to register information about their civilian employer and job skills, in order for the Department of Defense to meet three different requirements defined in law. The Department of Defense is required to: give consideration to civilian employment necessary to maintain national health, safety and interest when considering members for recall; ensure that members with critical civilian skills are not retained in numbers beyond those needed for those skills, and; inform employers of reservists of their rights and responsibilities under the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act.

Members of the Air Force Reserve can begin entering their employer data on a new Defense Manpower Data Center web site, at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/Guard-ReservePortal>.

Nominations due for 440th awards

The Family Readiness Office is accepting nominations for the fourth annual Spouse of the Year Award and the first 440th Trooper Award.

The Trooper Award is a new award that recognizes someone who has made a significant

contribution to your career or the Air Force.

To nominate an individual for the award, submit a typed package, to include the following information: participation in base and community activities, voluntary service in Air Force related organizations and activities, voluntary service in community related organizations and activities, what has the person done that makes her or him an outstanding military spouse, in your eyes?

Nominations must include facts and specific accomplishments that clearly state the individual's contributions.

All nominations received will be reviewed by a panel of judges who will select the winner. The announcement will be made at the Family Day Picnic in August. For more information, contact Susan Knauer at (414) 482-5424.

Taste tempting sweet treat time

The Family Readiness Office wants to remind people the Sweet Treat Contest will be held during the Family Day Picnic, Aug. 21.

The dessert contest has been popular with those who create the sweets and those who get to sample them. The desserts will be judged on their creativity, taste and presentation. Call Family Readiness at (414) 482-5424 for more details.

USO tickets available

The Milwaukee USO, 750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive, has tickets and discount offers for several local attractions including the Mitchell Park Domes, Milwaukee County Zoo and summer festivals.

For more information, call (414) 271-3133.

Family Day Picnic - Aug. 21

0800	Cooking begins
1100 - 1115	Commanders Call (Spouse of the Year award presentation)
1100 - 1400	Silent auction ticket sales
1115 - 1400	Food served (Bratwurst, black angus hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, pasta salad)
1115 - 1530	Beverage/bar services
1115 - 1530	Music and entertainment
1200 - 1500	Children games/dunk tank
1230 - 1500	Snow cones
1400 - 1500	Watermelon, ice cream
1430	Dessert contest and silent auction winners announced
1530	Picnic ends - volunteer clean-up appreciated

Like father, like daughter - the military tradition lives on

by Staff Sgt. Steve Staedler

After driving to UTA weekends for more than 21 years alone, Master Sgt. Ken Carpenter finally found a passenger to ride along with him – his daughter, Jennifer.

Although their carpooling just began in May, it ends this month as Jennifer will start making the drive alone. That's because the elder Carpenter's career is coming to an end while the younger Carpenter is now beginning hers.

"I just wanted to serve," she said. "A lot of my friends have joined different military branches and I thought it would be a good experience."

The 19-year-old airman first class finished newcomer's flight during the June UTA. She is assigned as a cargo processor with the 34th Aerial Port Squadron. She is a freshman at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee studying to become a nurse.

So what does dad think about seeing his daughter, in a sense, carry on the Carpenter name in the 440th Airlift Wing? His answer is not surprising.

"I'm proud to know she is serving and following in my footsteps," he said. "I always had a feeling she would come in someday. But I never pushed her. She came in entirely on her own."

"Personally I was real pleased and proud to see her in a uniform now."

Carpenter, a vehicle operator and dispatcher with the 440th

Logistics Readiness Squadron, said Jennifer grew up with the military and the 440th as an influence in her life. Like many reservists' children she attended many base picnics and squadron open houses with her parents.

"She's heard me talk about the military and the places I've gone, and eventually when she got older she heard about the GI bill," he said. "I think her motivation is just a combination of wanting to serve and taking advantage of the benefits."

Carpenter's military career spans 31 years. Prior to coming to the 440th in 1983, Carpenter spent time in the Army and Navy Reserve, and did active duty in the Navy. As he prepares to leave the Air Force Reserve, Carpenter said he's glad to see young people willing to step up and enter the military and serve their country.

"Especially with the world situation being what it is, she was still willing to enlist and be a part of it," he said. "I'm pleased with her decision."

"I'm proud to know she is serving and following in my footsteps," he said. "I always had a feeling she would come in someday. But I never pushed her. She came in entirely on her own."

- Master Sgt. Ken Carpenter



DIVERSITY: Seeing things from a different perspective.



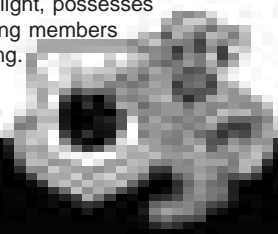
Question: How many AFSCs are manned in the 440th Airlift Wing?

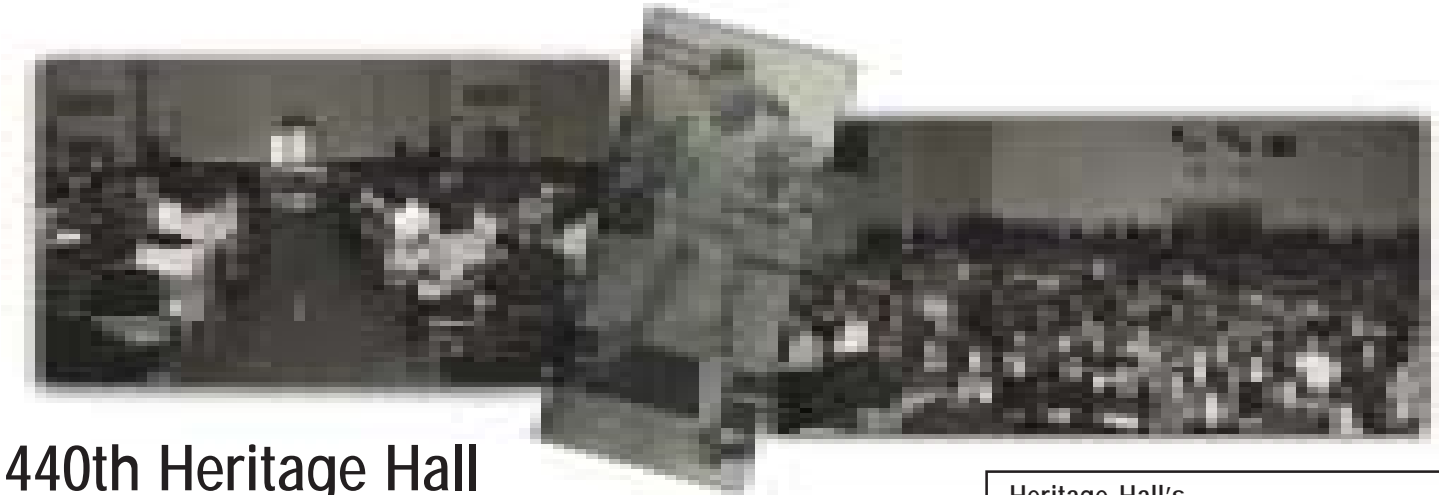
Answer: 112 enlisted*, 57 officer*. Next question: What is the only AFSC common to all but one of the wing's 18 subordinate units? Answer: 3A0X1 – Information Management (Maintenance Squadron does without.) Operating the wing certainly isn't small stuff, involving 169 different jobs – many highly technical – and 1,350 reservists. The wing's mission, as part of Air Mobility Command, is to provide airlift support in a variety of scenarios. Job One is flying its C-130s. That assignment falls to the 95th Airlift Squadron, which comprises 12 percent of wing membership. The other 88 percent serves in support roles. It's a credit to AFRC that it can attract so many qualified people; it's a credit to those people that they possess the wherewithal and resolve to capably perform so many diverse, meaningful jobs. Diversity ... isn't it great?!

(Left) Chief Master Sgt. Gerry Green, 440th Airlift Control Flight, possesses just one of the 169 different jobs and associated AFSCs wing members carry in accomplishing the day-to-day operations of the wing.

*Including sub-categories

DIFFERENT. DISTINCT. DIVERSIFIED.





440th Heritage Hall

Honoring members of the 440th - past, present and future

On August 21, wing members and special guests will pay tribute to the many contributions the 440th has provided during our country's past and present conflicts.

Heritage Hall, the wing's first-ever historical museum, will be dedicated in a special ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. in the wing auditorium, Bldg. 102. Past and present wing members, will deliver personal keynote speeches. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will follow the presentations.

"The museum's 14 display cases will be home to memorabilia representing the wing's role during WWs I and II, the Vietnam War, the Korean War, the desert wars, as well as current operations we are involved in today," said Tech. Sgt. Mark Aragon, 440th Communications Flight and museum curator.

"It is the (museum) committee's intentions that all of the memorabilia for the museum be permanently donated by our members - past and present," said Aragon.

Aragon, as well as other wing members, will display memorabilia from their own private military collections for this dedication ceremony. Any members interested in permanently donating items to the museum can contact Aragon directly either by phone at 630-295-8560, or by e-mail at aragon@usaaf.com.



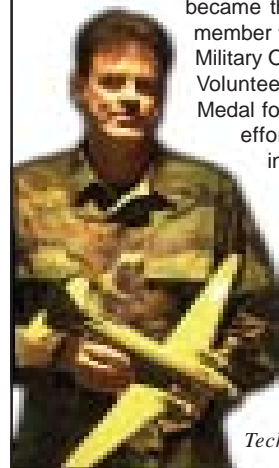
Any questions regarding the dedication ceremony and/or for more information can contact Chief Master Sgt. Ed Thomas, 440th Military Personnel Flight, at ext. 5304.

Inset: Before the 440th was relocated from Minneapolis, the 438th Fighter Wing called Milwaukee home. The wing's patch is a piece of wing history the museum committee will be trying to locate during the curating process.

Heritage Hall's curator makes history

Tech. Sgt. Mark Aragon, 440th Communications Flight, serves as the curator for the wing's Heritage Hall. In

June, 2004, Aragon became the first wing member to receive the Military Outstanding Volunteers Service Medal for his personal efforts at researching, gathering information and educating local and general publics about Air Force military history.



*photo by
Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer*



Reservists show their true color

440th reservists are reminded to log-on to AFRC's True Blue home page each month to review and respond to updates being made as the program evolves over the next six months for its official launch in early 2005.

Visit <https://wwwmil.afrc.af.mil/trueblue/>

and follow these directions:

- Click on the "Media" link
- View each media represented there: pamphlets; posters; and videos
- Go back to the home page
- Click on the "Survey" link and follow the instructions
- By design, the survey should not take longer than 3-4 minutes
- Please take the entire survey

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